

SILVER PLAN



**Operational Plan
BC RCMP Anti-Mandate Protests
2022-02-07**

Protected 'A'

This is the Silver Commander's Operational Plan for the "E" Division BC RCMP for Anti-Mandate Protests from February 07, 2022 to the conclusion of the operations as designated by CO "E" Division. It should be read in conjunction with Gold Commander's Policing Strategy for this operation, which is attached at Annex 'A' to this plan.

Gold Commander's Overall Aim: See Appendix "A"

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police – as the Provincial Police of British Columbia and the Police of Jurisdiction for the areas effected by Anti-Mandate Protests, will deliver its core policing responsibilities and provide enhanced policing service for areas subject to any criminality related to Anti-Mandate Protests, and/or associated actions, in a manner which reflects its Mission, Vision, Values. Its common-law and statutory policing responsibilities are to:

- Preserve the peace, uphold and enforce the law;
- Protect life, and property; and prevent crime;
- Ensure freedom of movement on roadways, railways and maritime routes.

ORIENTATION

Public order events and protests can be unpredictable, fluid and dependent on influences outside of police control. This includes, but is not limited to, ideology, political messaging, crowd dynamics and numbers, social and mainstream media messaging. Any information contained below is subject to change at any notice and is a snap shot of the situation at the time of writing.

There will be updates throughout this operation as needed to ensure consistent and necessary information to ensure proper oversight and accountability within the division.

“E” Division:

Several protests have occurred throughout every district and several non-RCMP PoJs in the province. “E” Division has stood up a Gold-Silver-Bronze Command Structure to provide command and control and support to the districts and other PoJs. Each district has been designated a Geographical Bronze Level Command.

Provincial Government:

The provincial government is concerned that the Anti-Mandate Protests may cause disruptions to government, commerce and movement throughout British Columbia.

A. SITUATION

The Government of Canada recently announced a federal mandate for truckers crossing the border to be vaccinated by 15 January 2022. This led to the so-called Freedom Convoy 2022 protest being organised largely through social media. Various convoys started across Canada on 22 January with the goal of arriving in Ottawa over the weekend of 28 and 29 January.

A convoy of Canadian truck drivers and their supporters traveled from various cities to Ottawa to protest the federal vaccine mandates for truck drivers, as well as Covid 19 mandated restrictions in general, starting on January 28/29 and continued uninterrupted to present.

While the organisers have declared that this is an act of peaceful protest, some ideologically motivated fringe elements have seized upon these rallies to advocate for their own ideological objectives. Extremists and other individuals supporting COVID-19

conspiracy theories and violent anti-authority/anti-government views have expressed intent to participate in these convoy protests.

Here have been a number of Anti-Mandate Protests in British Columbia in support of the Ottawa protesters. These have expanded to BC centric Anti-Mandate Protests throughout the province but focused on Victoria, Vancouver, Kelowna, Osoyoos and Surrey border crossings and Ft. St. John. It is expected that these protests will continue into the near future, based on messaging from organisers and participants online.

CO "E" Division has directed that a Gold, Silver, Bronze command structure be stood up for operational oversight, planning and coordination of Anti-Mandate Protest management.

This plan is not meant to override existing policing arrangements and organizations, but to supplement them.

Threat Assessment

Impromptu solidarity events are also likely to occur as the weekend approaches. As anti-public health order events Canada-wide continue to occur regularly and include tactics that are disruptive to daily life of local residents, it is likely that some of these solidarity actions will be met with counter-protests.

Based on national events from the past week, the use of convoys as a protest tactic is trending on social media. The use of vehicles in general for demonstrations poses multiple issues to public and officer safety, such as:

- Traffic interruptions that cause disruption to the daily lives of citizens and increase the potential for altercations with the public.
- Threat of weaponization of vehicles.
- Vehicles provide the opportunity to conceal materials which can be dangerous in nature.
- The demobilization of multiple vehicles requires specific operational consideration.

There will be a mechanism for continuous evaluation of the threats Command will make every effort to take into effect the unknowns and intangibles in the decision making process.

B. MISSION

1. Protect lives and secure property in areas affected by protest. Ensure safety of the general public, other emergency service workers and police officers; and minimize opportunities for persons to commit criminal acts against persons and property in the area(s) affected
2. Follow the lawful direction of the Gold Commander.
3. Work together with Municipal Partners, coordination centers and other government agencies to ensure a coordinated response.
4. If it's necessary to take action and/or assert jurisdiction, conduct any activities in accordance with lawful authorities, RCMP policy, the Gold/Silver/Bronze structure, Major Case Management principles and the Incident Management Intervention Model.
5. Restore order and the public peace expeditiously, but with restraint if the situation deteriorates to disorder.
6. Any action taken will respect the rights of all persons, and will be compliant with the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* and the *Criminal Code of Canada*.
7. Conduct any action in such a way that the Area of Operations will be returned to a state of normality as quickly as possible after the end of the event.

C. EXECUTION

Commander's Intent

The Gold Commander has directed that all commands ensure timely and accurate reporting throughout any protests in order to support CORE policing operations in the areas affected by protests. This will not detract from the provision of core policing elsewhere in the division, in keeping with the Mission, Vision and Values of the force. It's understood that Silver Command should be prepared for scaleable responses to dynamic situations throughout the areas affected by protests.

Center of Gravity: Previous protests have placed significant pressures on CORE policing across business lines. Sustained operations within areas affected by protests have necessitated emphasis on logistical, administrative and planning activities that have taxed police commands.

Exploitation Plan: In order to provide the conditions for execution of the Gold Commander's plan, the RCMP will:

- Engage with contract partners, provincial agencies and all protest stakeholders to ensure adequate police services are delivered in areas affected by protests;
- Ensure all members deployed for the event are properly equipped and clear on the parameters and police authorities while deployed;
- Ensure adequate media relations messaging to maintain public awareness and confidence in ongoing police actions; and
- Position the appropriate resources to be able to respond quickly to ensure public safety and protection of property from criminality.

End state: Public safety, security of property and public confidence will have been maintained by police planning and preparations. If criminality and/or security concerns arise, it will have been interdicted early and full investigative resources will be brought to bear to return to normalcy as soon as practicable

Silver Command will be established at "E" Division HQ. There will be Geographical Bronze Commanders appointed for each district and designated detachments. Functional Bronze Commands will be maintained at "E" HQ and elsewhere as directed by Silver command.

Any planning will follow the National Decision Model.

Concept of Operations

The primary function of all commands will be to facilitate communication, coordination of mutual support and execution of tactical plans pre, during and post deployment of resources in the field in such a way as to create a scalable posture for response to operational needs.

The Gold Commander will be the point of contact for strategic level resources and communications. Their role will be to provide strategic direction and oversight to the Silver Commander.

The Silver Commander will have operational control during the deployment. The Bronze and Sub-Bronze Commanders will be responsible for policing any events, in consultation with or at the direction of the Silver Commander and in alignment with the operational plan.

The following Bronze Commands will be available to the Silver Commander:

- Geographic Bronze Commanders in BCHP, North, South East, Island and Lower Mainland Districts as designated by Gold.
- Functional Bronze and Sub-Bronze Commanders providing support to the Silver and Geographic Bronze Commands as and when required.

Any members deployed outside their normal detachment areas will be under command of their respective Bronze Commander. They will deploy in a measured manner, only as required. Any police response will be delivered in an impartial and measured way.

Command Structure:

This Command structure may be subject to change based on emerging intelligence and situations

Gold Commander: C/Supt. John BREWER
Silver Commander: Supt. Jim Elliott
Silver Staff Officer: Sgt. Jonn UZELAC
Bronze INTEL Commander: Sgt. Mark LUNDIE
Bronze Operations Support: Gus PAPAGIANNIS
CIP Bronze Commander: S/Sgt. Glen FISHBOOK
DLT Bronze Commander: S/Sgt. Aaron SPROULE
IMIT Bronze Commander: Sgt. Kerry WILLIAMS
DDO / FED OCC Bronze Commander: Insp. Mike COYLE

Geographic Bronze and Sub-Bronze Commanders:

SED:

Bronze SED: Insp. Perry SMITH
Sub-Bronze Kelowna:
Sub-Bronze: Kamloops:
Sub-Bronze: South Okanagan

ID:

Bronze ID: Supt. Mac RICHARDS
Sub-Bronze Nanaimo

Sub-Bronze West Shore
Sub-Bronze Duncan-North Cowichan
Sub-Bronze Campbell River

LMD:

LMD Bronze: Insp. Mike BHATTI
Sub-Bronze Surrey
Sub-Bronze Burnaby

ND:

ND Bronze: Insp. Ken FLOYD

BCHP:

BCHP Bronze Command: Supt. Dale CARR

Daily Key Timings and Briefings

Weekly coordination call with all commands:

Thursdays 1400: Number: 1-236-495-2007 Code: 95805727

Daily coordination calls:

As designated by Silver Command

Hourly written updates in real time to all levels of command during protests:

Email Unfolding BN Format

Shifts within protest areas will be set through Bronze and Sub-Bronze Commands in consultation with Silver Command.

All shifts are subject to change to meet operational needs

Briefing Invited Attendees:

GSB: Gold Commander,
Silver Commander, Silver Staff Officer
Geographic Bronze Commanders, Functional Bronze Commanders,
Sub-Bronze Commanders, Strategic Communications

The Silver Commander (or their designate) will chair GSB Briefings. They will provide Gold Command with a BN as and when required through pre-agreed upon scheduling.

The Gold Commander will have strategic oversight of planning, operations and communications. They will maintain communications with the Silver Commander throughout the duration of operations.

The Gold Commander will brief “E” Division Senior Management, other government and police agencies on the status, issues and concerns of the operation through verbal and BN updates as and when required.

There will be a Strategic Communications team available to the Gold Commander upon request.

Operational Period

The Operational Period is planned from 2022-02-07 until the CO “E” Division declares the Antie-Mandate Protests GSB operation ended.

The Silver Commander and all Bronze Commanders will conduct an ongoing assessment of the situation in their respective Areas of Responsibility throughout the operation. The operational posture of all levels of command will be determined through an ongoing assessment of the situation in conjunction with the Silver Commander, based on available intelligence and the intent of the Gold Commander. This may include deployment of extra resources in a surge capacity to meet unexpected requirements during the operation.

All movement and staging to and from home units, into the affected interface fire areas, will be administered and controlled through Silver Command.

Contingency Operations

Crowd Management and Control

Police actions during Crowd management and Control will be in three phases:

- 1) Pre: Public education, communication and information sharing.
- 2) During: Enforcement and De-escalation as required using the Measured Approach at all times.

3) Post: Communication, information sharing of lessons learned.

If an area is subject to protests that require direct police intervention the Geographic Bronze Commander will coordinate the planning and execution policing response in conjunction with the Sub-Bronze under direction of Silver Command. There will be continuous communication between Silver and Bronze Commands during all phases of intervention to ensure The Gold Commander's intentions are met.

If there is any criminality, such as violence or property damage, during any phase of police intervention, Bronze Command will ensure an appropriate response within the Gold Commanders intent.

It's understood that this plan will be subject to change in response to the varied dynamics at play.

D. ADMINISTRATION

Silver Command Resources

The following persons will be available to the Silver Commander:

- Geographic Bronze Commanders
- Functional Bronze Commanders
- Sub-Bronze Commanders
- Support personnel as needed.

Full or partial stand-down may occur at any time during the event.

Medical

No special arrangements are required. Local EHS from BCAS and the local hospitals will be used.

Logistical

Accommodations

Accommodations required in affected areas will be coordinated through Geographic

Bronze and Sub-Bronze Commands under the direction of CIRG Ops Support Bronze Command.

Transportation

Unless through exceptional circumstances, or designated otherwise by Silver Command all transportation, outside of intra-district transpotation, will be coordinated through CIRG Ops Support Bronze Command. Transportation methods for resources will be determined through operational needs and requirements. Every attempt will be made to utilize the most operationally efficient, effective and fiscally prudent transportation necessary to move personnel, goods and equipment for this operation

Meals

Owing to the indeterminate duration of the operation and the diverse locations of the areas affected by protest, Bronze and Sub-Bronze Commands will ensure employees have adequate meals and accomodations. CIRG Ops Support will provide the necessary logistical and administrative support to Geographic Bronze and Sub-Bronze Commands. Unless there is operational necessity, RCMP policies and guidelines regarding meals and accomodation will be adheared to.

Sustainment Priorities and Resources

Contingencies and sustainment measures may be required to meet the ongoing operational requirments of personnel and equipment in those areas affected by protests.

In the event of contingency operations, the Silver Commander, in consultation with the Geographic Bronze Commanders, will determine if the operational period will be extended, and notify Gold Command of any changes to previous agreed upon deployment plans.

Finance

Costing

All costs will be tracked through appropriate business lines:

The relevant finance codes for municipal areas will use PoJ collators with an IO#.

The appropriate finance codes for the provincial business line is: **Collator # E1415, IO #TBD.**

Administrative Management

RCMP administrative policies and guidelines will be followed throughout the duration of this operation. The appropriate policy centers will be consulted, as needed, for interpretation of specific administrative relative to this operation.

Business rules for file management will be set by CIRG records management processes.

E. COMMAND, CONTROL and COMMUNICATIONS

Command and Control

This plan does not replace existing organizations or structures, nor replace any commanders or processes.

This event will require one Gold Commander working from RCMP HQ in charge of the Police support to all RCMP jurisdictions affected by Anti-Mandate Protests. The Gold Commander will provide a dedicated strategic overview of policing preparations relative to the areas affected by protests. This will enhance, not replace, existing structures. The Gold Commander will also be prepared to initiate the provincial response to any policing contingencies occurring due to protests and other related events.

The Silver Commander will have operational command. Silver Command will ensure there is coordination, economy of effort and economy of scale in support for the Geographic Bronze and Sub-Bronze Commands to enhance delivery of policing services during this operation.

Communication

Radio Communication

Local radio channels, through the local OCCs, will be used for all police operations in the areas affected by protests. DDO through Fed OCC will maintain oversight of radio communications.

“E” HQ Radio Technicians and IT will provide direct support, through coordination with DEOC, for the duration of the operation.

Media

There will be a Strategic Communications representative available to the Gold Commander. “E” Division Strategic Communications will be available for consultation to provide media lines in the event of significant incidents.

All external and internal messaging will be approved through Gold Command for Strategic Communications, unless there are exigent circumstances whereby Strategic Communication is not available or timeliness is an issue

Legal

The RCMP Legal Advisory Section – Department of Justice Canada is available for assistance and advice at 604-754-9351 and bobby.bharaj@rcmp-grc.gc.ca .

Prepared by:

Silver Commander

Date: 2017-07-13

Approved by:

Gold Commander

Date:

ANNEXES

Annex 'A' Gold Strategic Plan

